

## HIGHWAY COMMITTEE MEETING

April 9, 2009

The regular monthly meeting of the Grant County Highway Committee was held on Thursday, April 9, 2009 at the Highway Office in Lancaster, Wisconsin. Chairman Donald Splinter called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M..

Members present besides the Chairman were Mark Stead, Vern Lewison, Eugene Bartels, Pat Schroeder, and Highway Commissioner David Lambert. Also present was County Board Chairman John Patcle and Personnel Director Joyce Roling.

Eugene Bartels, seconded by Pat Schroeder, moved that we are in compliance with the open meeting law. Motion carried.

Pat Schroeder, seconded by John Patcle, moved to approve the agenda as printed with one change. The change was moving the closed session up to just under the approval of the bills. Motion carried.

Vern Lewison, seconded by Eugene Bartels, moved to approve the minutes of the March 17, 2009 meeting as printed. Motion carried.

Donald Splinter, seconded by Eugene Bartels, moved to pay Vouchers #139 thru #247. Motion carried.

Pat Schroeder, seconded by John Patcle, moved to enter into closed session per Wisconsin State Statutes 19.85 (1)(C) for Performance Evaluation. A roll call vote was taken with Bartels, Schroeder, Lewison, Stead, and Splinter all voting yes. Motion carried.

Mark Stead, seconded by Vern Lewison, moved to come out of closed session and return to open session. Motion carried.

David began the Supervisors Reports. Regarding employment, he said that Jack Ellis took Steve McPhail's Operator Position, Brad Hood to Jack Ellis Operator I Position, John Yanna took Brad Hood's Patrol Section, and John's Patrol Section was offered to the employees currently working for Grant County on April 3, 2009. David will keep the Committee informed if anyone applies for the position.

Economic Recovery Funds will cover the cost of the local share of replacing the CTH "C" bridge. Local funding will still be needed to pay for 350 feet of approaches for the bridge. The original estimate of Grant County's share of the project was \$174,000.00, so the stimulus program will save Grant County about \$100,000.00 on this project.

Funding for two bridge replacement projects on CTH "A" and one on Spring Valley Road have been requested through the Economic Recovery Program.

The Chestnut Street Bridge & Street Construction Project in Platteville is the big project for Grant County under the Economic Recovery Program. The County is working with the City, University of Wisconsin, and local Government Officials to obtain approval for approximately \$2,500,000.00 in construction funding for this project. Applications were submitted by Grant County, as the lead agency, on Friday, April 3, 2009.

Travis has taken over the document preparation and will be working with Beth Massey to complete the transfer of the property regarding Janet Tysver. When all work is completed, the bills will be split with Ayres Associates.

The Department of Workforce Development has filed a claim against Grant County for failing to obtain a Prevailing Wage Determination for 2008 paving work on CTH "U" & CTH "A" and for hiring some of the work to be done by private contractors. In this case we hired trucks & drivers to haul stone and asphalt. The County has never applied for a wage determination for paving our own County System in the past. According to the State this is no excuse and that Grant County has been evidently out of compliance since 1936.

Jon & Randy have discussed using the three tandem-axle trucks & State Patrolmen to reduce the number of trucks we hire during paving. The County applied for a wage determination on CTH "X" and posted the results. The determination on CTH "U" and CTH "A" will be posted when they are received. The laughable part to the determination is that it resulted in a prevailing wage of \$10.50/hr for a driver of a "Three or more Axle Truck".

The 2009 Summer Highway Conference was discussed.

Jon said that the Hwy 133 project has started with completion set for mid November. Porters Bridge will close the second week of June for replacement and will be closed until mid September. All snow fence on the State System is down and Jon gave a detailed Storm Report Summary through 3/26/09.

Randy said that the County sanders are coming off and that construction has started with ditching and shouldering.

For the record, I will note that Jon and Randy joined the meeting after the Committee came out of closed session and returned to open session.

Randy began the Machinery & Equipment Reports by saying that the new Excavator unit is in. The old one is undergoing transmission repairs that are covered under the warranty. The new pickups are also in.

Jeannie Morgan joined the meeting to discuss a hoist system for the shop. After discussion, Pat Schroeder, seconded by Vern Lewison, moved to purchase a Rotary Lift model MCH418 & adapters for \$35,283.00 plus freight from Mutual Wheel Company of Dubuque. Motion carried.

There was a lengthy discussion on a proposal for drop-down chains for new section trucks. Vern Lewison, seconded by Pat Schroeder, moved to buy drop-down chains for all new Patrol Trucks and the two new trucks purchased in 2008. Motion carried by majority vote. Mark Stead voted no.

A J. I. Case Tomahawk Customer Center Trip invitation was discussed.

David has submitted an application under the Diesel Emission Reduction Act to Peterbilt Wisconsin who will in turn submit an application to the EPA to get up to 25% reimbursement for taking older trucks off the road and replacing them with new more environmentally friendly diesel trucks. The total cost of the vehicle is considered. Five vehicles were listed in the application. David doesn't know when he will hear anything regarding the application but is hoping the County gets something even if its less than the 25%.

David gave the Engineering Report. The CTH "O" Bridge Project is estimated to start in early June. Concrete Structures of Janesville will build the new 44 foot span bridge.

Travis has agreed to help with the initial survey and cost estimate for the CTH "HHH" reconstruction project. With Travis representing the entire Engineering Department at this point, he will begin the survey when the summer engineering students begin working. The work will begin from Hwy 151 and go just past the business district in Kieler. The design must be done correctly as there are many drainage problems and drainage issues that need to be considered. Construction will be in 2010. David has talked with Faber Runde, Jamestown Township Chairman, regarding this project.

Mark Stead, seconded by Vern Lewison, moved to adjourn at 11:55 A.M.. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mark A. Stead, Secretary